Pay disparity among Group 'B' Officers of various Ministries/Departments

*306. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sixth Pay Commission has not looked into just demand of Group 'B' Officers of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) Ministry of granting them Group 'A' scale after completion of four years of service;

(b) whether it is also a fact that officers for the Railways, Accounts, Central Secretariat Service (CSS), Central Secretariat Stenographers Service (CSSS), Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Civil Service (DANICS) and Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Police Service (DANIPS) have been given better deal; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve career prospects of Group 'B' Officers of I&B Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) *Vide* para 7.22.4 of its Report, Sixth Central Pay Commission recommended that posts of Indian Information Service Group 'B' of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting which were in the pre-revised scales of Rs.5500-9000 and Rs.6500-10500 will come to lie in the same pay scale on account of restructuring of pay scales and functionally also they were similar. Therefore, these posts should be merged. This recommendation of the Pay Commission regarding Group 'B' posts in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has been accepted. For officers in the Railways, Accounts, Central Secretariat Service, Central Secretariat Stenographer Service, Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Civil Service, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar Islands Police Service who were already in the pre-revised scale of Rs. 8000-13500, the Pay Commission recommended replacement pay band PB-2 with grade pay of Rs.5400, which was modified by Government to PB-3 with grade pay of Rs.5400.

Social obligations of private sector oil companies

*307. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present contribution of producers in private sector oil Companies in meeting their social obligations; and

(b) whether Government has not made it obligatory by asking them to supply petroleum products to Government companies on Indian market prices before allowing them to export the same on a very high profit?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) Private sector oil companies do not come under the administrative control of this Ministry for this purpose and hence their contribution to social obligation is not monitored by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

(b) There is a surplus refining capacity in the country today. As against the total domestic consumption of petroleum products of 128.94 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) during 2007-08, the